

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

The Senate was not in session today. It will next meet at 2 p.m., on Monday, December 12, 2005.

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

HURRICANE KATRINA

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded hearings to examine perspectives of FEMA's operations professionals relative to Hurricane Katrina, after receiving testimony from Scott Wells, Federal Coordinating Officer, FEMA Joint Field Office (Baton Rouge, Louisiana), Philip

E. Parr, Deputy Federal Coordinating Officer, FEMA Joint Field Office (Austin, Texas), and William L. Carwile, former Federal Coordinating Officer, FEMA Joint Field Office (Biloxi, Mississippi), all of the Department of Homeland Security.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded hearings on the nominations of George W. Foresman, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary for Preparedness, and Tracy A. Henke, of Missouri, to be Executive Director of the Office of State and Local Government Coordination and Preparedness, both of the Department of Homeland Security. Ms. Henke was introduced by Representative Emerson.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 28 public bills, H.R. 4471–4498; 1 private bill, H.R. 4499; and 6 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 312–314; and H. Res. 591–593 were introduced. **Pages H11326–27**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H11327–28**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 972, to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2006 through 2007 for the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 109–317, Pt. 2);

H.R. 1090, to designate a Forest Service trail at Waldo Lake in the Willamette National Forest in the State of Oregon as a national recreation trail in honor of Jim Weaver, a former Member of the House of Representatives, with an amendment (H. Rept. 109–331);

S. 362, to establish a program within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the United States Coast Guard to help identify, determine sources of, assess, reduce, and prevent ma-

rine debris and its adverse impacts on the marine environment and navigation safety, in coordination with non-Federal entities, with an amendment (H. Rept. 109–332, Pt. 1); and

Conference Report on H.R. 3199, to extend and modify authorities needed to combat terrorism, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 109–333). **Page H11326**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative LaHood to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H11223**

Tax Relief Extension Reconciliation Act of 2005: The House passed H.R. 4297, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 201(b) of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2006, by a yeas-and-nays vote of 234 yeas to 197 nays, Roll No. 621. **Pages H11227–64**

Rejected the Rangel motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Ways and Means with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with amendments by a yeas-and-nays vote of 193 yeas to 235 nays, Roll No. 620. **Pages H11262–64**

Pursuant to the rule the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Ways and Means, now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted.

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Rejected:

Rangel amendment in the nature of a substitute (printed in H. Rept. 109–330) that sought to extend for one year all the expiring provisions contained in Title I of H.R. 4297, including the deduction for state and local retail sales taxes, the deduction for college tuition expenses, tax incentives for the District of Columbia and Indian reservations, 15 year depreciation period for leasehold and restaurant improvements, qualified zone academy bonds, the Brownfields cleanup tax incentive, and several other minor provisions. The amendment makes no substantive changes to the expiring provisions, except for the research credit, work opportunity tax credit, and welfare-to-work tax credit, which are expanded to match the Thomas bill. In addition to the one-year extensions that are retained by the amendment, the amendment also would extend the temporary provision that terminates at the end of this calendar year and that provides a larger earned income tax credit for the families of those serving in Iraq and other conforming and technical changes, by a yeand-nay vote of 192 yeas to 239 nays, Roll No. 619.

Pages H11249–62

H. Res. 588, the rule providing for consideration of the bill was agreed to by voice vote, after agreeing to order the previous question without objection.

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Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measure which was debated on Wednesday, December 7th:

Securing Aircraft Cockpits Against Lasers Act of 2005: H.R. 1400, to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide penalties for aiming laser pointers at airplanes.

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Privileged Resolution: The Chair ruled that the resolution offered by Representative Pelosi did constitute a question of the privileges of the House. Agreed to the motion to table H. Res. 591 by a recorded vote of 219 ayes to 188 noes, Roll No. 622.

Pages H11264–66

Meeting Hour: Agreed that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at noon on Monday, December 12th, and when the House adjourns on Monday, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 a.m. on Tuesday, December 13th, for Morning Hour Debate.

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Calendar Wednesday: Agreed to dispense with the Calendar Wednesday business of Wednesday, December 14th.

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Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yeand-nay votes and 1 recorded vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H11261–62, H11263–64, H11264, H11265–66. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Committee Meetings

PROSECUTING WAR CRIMINALS LIVING IN THE UNITED STATES

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Science, The Department of State, Justice, and Commerce, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Federal efforts related to the exclusion, removal and prosecution of aliens and naturalized U.S. citizens who have committed war crimes or human rights abuses outside the U.S. Testimony was heard from Eli Rosenbaum, Director, Office of Special Investigations, Criminal Division, Department of Justice; and Stephen A. Edson, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Visa Services, Department of State.

PULMONARY HYPERTENSION/CHRONIC PAIN RESEARCH

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled “Improving America’s Health: Examining Federal Research Efforts for Pulmonary Hypertension and Chronic Pain.” Testimony was heard from Mark Gladwin, M.D., Chief, Vascular Medicine Branch, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, NIH, Department of Health and Human Services; CPT John Pruden, USA; and public witnesses.

POST-HURRICANES HOUSING OPTIONS

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Housing and Community Opportunity held a hearing entitled “Housing Options in the Aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.” Testimony was heard from David E. Garratt, Acting Director, Recovery Division, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security.

RESOLUTION—IRAQ WAR DOCUMENT REQUEST

Committee on International Relations: Began markup of H. Res. 549, Requesting the President of the United States provide to the House of Representatives all documents in his possession relating to his October 7, 2002, speech in Cincinnati, Ohio, and his January 23, 2003, State of the Union address.